

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a wireless communication system comprising a plurality of [[B]]base [[S]]stations and at least one [[S]]switch in communication with the [[B]]base [[S]]stations, a method of synchronizing at least one neighboring [[B]]base [[S]]station to a [[B]]base [[S]]station connected with a mobile unit comprising:

from the [[B]]base [[S]]station connected with the mobile unit, periodically transmitting during a selected time interval with higher transmission power than during normal transmission; and

receiving the transmission with higher transmission power at the at least one neighboring [[B]]base [[S]]station.

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2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) Method, according to claim 1, wherein:

the mobile unit is equipped with a short-range wireless communication transmitter/receiver.

5. (Original) Method, according to claim 1, wherein the mobile unit is a device selected from the group consisting of:

telephone handset, standard cordless telephone handset, cellular telephone handset, personal data device, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer, laptop computer, e-mail server, a device utilizing point-to-point protocol (PPP) to the Internet via a central remote access server a headset, a personal server, a wearable computer, a wireless camera, and a mobile music player.

6. (Currently Amended) Method, according to claim 1, further comprising:

providing communication links between the [[B]]base [[S]]stations, wherein the communication links between the [[B]]base [[S]]stations are selected from the group consisting of RF links and land lines; and

transferring connection status information and rough synchronization information between the [[B]]base [[S]]stations over the communications links.

7. (Currently Amended) Method, according to claim 1, wherein:

the [[B]]base [[S]]stations and the [[S]]switch are connected via a wired or wireless local area network (LAN).

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8. (Currently Amended) Method, according to claim 1, wherein:
a first plurality of [[B]]base [[S]]stations are connected to a first [[S]]switch;
a second plurality of [[B]]base [[S]]stations are connected to a second [[S]]switch;

the [[S]]switches maintain status tables for calls and connections that they are handling, and maintain copies of each other's status tables; and

when a [[S]]switch updates one of its status tables, it sends the updated status table to the other [[S]]switches.

9. (Original) Method, according to claim 1, wherein:

the wireless communication system comprises a wireless private branch exchange (WPBX) handling calls from mobile units comprising handsets.

10. (Currently Amended) Method, according to claim 9, further comprising:

in the [[S]]switch, maintaining a table of calls being handled by the WPBX, comprising information selected from the group consisting of a unique Call Identification number for each active call being handles by the WPBX, the origin of the call, the destination of the call, [[C]]calling [[N]]number [[I]]identification (CNID), [[D]]destination [[N]]number (DN), [[O]]originating [[B]]base [[S]]station [[I]]identification, [[D]]destination [[B]]base [[S]]station [[I]]identification, [[S]]status of call, information for billing, and information for performance analysis.

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11. (Currently Amended) Method, according to claim 9, further comprising:

in the [[S]]switch, for each call, maintaining a table of connections comprising information selected from the group consisting of [[H]]handset ID, [[C]]current [[B]]base [[S]]station ID, handle of high-level protocols, handle of low-level protocols, [[N]]number of candidate [[B]]base [[S]]stations for handoff, [[L]]list of candidate [[B]]base [[S]]stations for handoff, and [[L]]list of handoff status for each candidate [[B]]base [[S]]station.

12. (New) In a wireless communication system comprising a plurality of base stations and at least one switch in communication with the base stations, a method of synchronizing at least one neighboring base station to a base station connected with a mobile unit comprising:

from the base station connected with the mobile unit, periodically transmitting during a selected time interval with higher transmission power than during normal transmission; and

receiving the transmission with higher transmission power at the at least one neighboring base station;

wherein the selected time interval is a synchronization hop in a series of periodic hops;

and wherein the increased transmission power during the synchronization hop is at least twice as great as the normal transmission power.

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13. (New) In a wireless communication system comprising a plurality of base stations and at least one switch in communication with the base stations, a method of synchronizing at least one neighboring base station to a base station connected with a mobile unit comprising:

from the base station connected with the mobile unit, periodically transmitting during a selected time interval with higher transmission power than during normal transmission; and

receiving the transmission with higher transmission power at the at least one neighboring base station;

wherein the selected time interval is a synchronization hop in a series of periodic hops;

and wherein the synchronization hop is transmitted at a different frequency than the remaining periodic hops.
